



PUBLIC NOTICE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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**COMMON CARRIER BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON COMPLIANCE
DEADLINE FOR HARMONIZATION ORDER REGULATIONS**

File No. NSD-L-99-13

On August 22, 1997, the Commission issued a Report and Order to amend Part 68 of the Commission's rules, to harmonize U.S. and Canadian regulations governing the manufacture of customer-provided terminal equipment (*Harmonization Order*).¹ The amended rules were published in the Federal Register on November 19, 1997, and ultimately became effective on June 8, 1998.²

In this Public Notice, we seek comment on 47 C.F.R. § 68.2(j)(3), which was adopted in the *Harmonization Order* as follows:

(j)(3) Terminal equipment including premises wiring and protective apparatus (if any) directly connected to the network on April 20, 1997, may remain connected and be reconnected for life without registration, unless subsequently modified. New installations of terminal equipment, including premises wiring and protective apparatus (if any) may be installed (including additions to existing systems) up to May 19, 1999, without registration of any terminal equipment involved, providing that the terminal equipment is of a type directly connected to the network as of April 20, 1998. This terminal equipment may remain connected and be reconnected to the network for life without registration, unless subsequently modified.

After receiving numerous queries from manufacturers, we find that clarification of the compliance requirements of this section may be necessary. We seek comment on whether we should clarify 47 C.F.R. § 68.2(j)(3) as requiring re-registration of previously registered equipment after May 19, 1999.

¹ Amendment of Part 68 of the Commission's Rules, *Report and Order*, 12 FCC Rcd 19218 (1997), *Errata*, DA 98-277 (rel. Feb. 12, 1998).

² Amendment of Part 68 of the Commission's Rules, *Report and Order*, 62 FR 61654 (1997).

Interested parties may file comments concerning this issue on or before **March 5, 1999**. Reply comments may be filed on or before **March 12, 1999**. Comments and Reply Comments should reference File No. NSD-L-99-13. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies.

See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 13 FCC Rcd 11322 (1998). Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address>." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of all comments and reply comments. All filings must be sent to the Commission's Secretary, Magalie Roman Salas, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be filed with the Commission's duplicating contractor, International Transcription Services (ITS), 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, and one copy with Al McCloud, Network Services Division, Suite 235, 2000 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Copies of documents filed with the Commission may be obtained from the International Transcription Service (ITS), 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 857-3800. Alternative formats (computer diskette, large print, audio cassette, and Braille) are available to persons with disabilities by contacting Martha Contee at (202) 418-0260, TTY (202) 418-2555, or at mcontee@fcc.gov. This Public Notice can also be downloaded at: <http://www.fcc.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David O. Ward at (202) 418-2336 or William Howden (202) 418-2343. The address is: Network Services Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 2000 M Street, NW, Suite 235, Washington, DC 20554. The fax number is: (202) 418-7314. The TTY number is: (202) 418-0484.

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